One of John Evans' Counsel Reviews the Case - His Synopsis of the Evidence. Doubts as to the Correctness of Mattie Cole's Identification of the Assailant-No Politics in the Case

To the Editor of The Messenger:

The effort made to some to sustain the verdict of the jury in convicting John Evans at Rockingham seems to me to be made with the belief that a jury "can do no wrong." But, here in our town there is a poor negro, Fred Wooten, who was convicted (with his brother and a friend) of arson, over in the adjoining county of South Carolina. After the brother and his friend | correctness of this, had not numbers of had been hung and he had served 12 people seen that is it was true. The alof his 17-year sentence in the penitentiary, it was ascertained that another committed the crime, and, upon a in this longittude, this would make death-bed, confession was made, the

fold, innocent of that crime. No one dares to say that the jury in was just.

so many think John Evans is not guiltty? Shall we declare that it is a rebe the right man? From some of the articles against this poor unfortunate it would seem that some must think so. No one can or will try to reflect upon the jury that tried Evans. They were men, human. Did they err? There is no other question pertinent.

If I know my own mind, I say truly, from the bottom of my heart that it is my firm conviction that the jury did err, and that if executed, the hanging | The first desciption I saw of the crimof John Evans will be a judicial mur-

Being of counsel for the defence, it may seem that I would be prejudiced thereby, and I am not foolish enough to claim that I may not be influenced some by the interest that this has the standpoint of the defendant. I was description of a certain well known or more from the scene, and some conforced me to take in the case, from assigned to defend, over my protest, mulatto, whom he wanted arrested, yielding only when that good man, for but the sheriff ascertained that that appear for the defence, and he urged Postal Telegraph operators summoned, me to do so; for if I did not, it might cause him to have to order counsel from another bar to aid in the defence. I was at home in Laurinburg when

the prisoner was arraigned, but in obedience to telegrams from the court, I arose before day and rode twenty-six miles through the country to appear at the trial, arriving at the court house just as the jury was called. The first juror called was taken. At that time I was as ignorant of the case as he, and I had not time to see a single witness or consult with Messrs. Dockery & Dockery, who were assigned at the arraignment, as was I, to defend the

Naturally, I supposed we had a guilty client. To see that he had justice was my aim, and, as I had previously stated, if I believed him innocent, I would do all I could in my weakness, to defend him, to clear him. But if convinced that he was guilty, no technical defence, or cavilling, or delay of any kind would be entered upon by me; that if he should be acquitted wrongly, and I was fully convinced thereof, I felt that I could not readily acquiecise in that, but would be so anxious to avenge justice that I might, perchance, violate the law myself in attempting to do it.

Now, some papers of the state have stated that republican lawyers for the defence have been trying to get a republican governor to pardon this man. That charge is unworthy of notice, but I will reply to it. One of the reasons urged why I should appear for this poor fellow was to take it out of politics, and keep it there, and I was selected for that purpose, especially as I had been chairman of the democratic executive committee of the county and my democracy could not be ques-

- Now, I have been twice to see the governor, and I will go again, if I do not change my mind as to the guilt of this man-if my going will assist to get him clear of the sentence or get it modified. I went to Wilmington, saw the governor, returned home, got up affidavits, etc., and went to Raleigh and laid them before the governor on Tuesday night of last week. I do not understand human nature, or Governor Russell is playing a part, if he is not troubled over this matter. I was fully impressed with that view of the case, and I am sure I do not want his job, nor would I exchange places in this matter, hard as is my own work, and as much as the question has troubled me. It has caused me to lose a good deal of sleep; for the action of the court in assigning me, with Messrs. Dockery & Dockery, placed this man's life in part in my hands. I would say right here that all of the counsel for the defence have worked harmoniously in all things, and have had singular unanimity of views. It is true, I went to see the governor in Wilmington without consulting with them, though I wrote them, but they did not get my let ter in time to answer before I had

Now to tre evidence: I. took full notes, over forty pages, at the trial, and have to rely upon that for what I

On the morning of October 23d, about ten minutes before 6 o'clock, three sisters left their home in Rockingham for the factory. They passed along a path that ran inside of a field, by the fence to a point where the barbed wire was loose, and then the path passes through and skirts the woods just outside of the fence for some distance. The foremost girl, 15 years old, saw nothing at any time. When the foremost girl turned out of the line of the path (inside the field) to pass through the fence and go outside of the same, she stepped from before the second

The second girl, hurrying after the first, and about three steps behind. saw directly beyond and in front a man crouching in the weeds just beyond the point where the path passed through the fence, and in line with the direction of the path she was on. This little girl, exactly 13 years and 7 months old that day (for she was 13 | The man who said: "All "coons' look on March 23d last, and this was Octo- alike to me" would hardly be satisfied ber 23d) saw him and thought he was a with that identification. well-known chracter, a drunk white it was not a white man, and turned to stayed all night and next morning at her sister, and said, "Look out, Lillie." the livery stable heard certain con-The sister was then just drawing her versations and certain people called, fence, as Miss Mattie testified (and was corroborated by witnesses, white

therefore she had her eyes on the sister, and not the man, to see that such was the case). Instantly this man sprng upon the oldest sister, who had taken the three steps that intervened between each of the girls hurrying ("because we was late," in Miss Mat-'tie's own words) to the factory. Miss Mattie screamed, ran, and never so much as looked back. This was, her whole opportunity for seeing the assailant. They were hurrying, three steps apart, and after herself getting through the fence, one glance at the man, one at her sister; the man springs upon her sister, and instantly there is flight, with that species of fear that does not permit her to look back, even.

That morning was cloudy, and there was fog, and a heap of it, too. The weather reports will demonstrate the manac says the sun arose that morn- Evans. ing at 6:14, but Washington time being about 15 minutes ahead of the sun, sunrise at 6:29 a. m., or 34 minutes af-The pardon that freed Fred Wooten woods skirted to the east of this place, could not reach Amos Wooten or Wil- so I am informed, and rather calculiam Easterling, who died on the scaf- lated to darken the place, is my information.

One paper has said that Mr. Terry, a that case was corrupt, or incompetent, white man, testifying for the defence, but no one will say that the verdict said it was light. He said some time after the occurrence it was light Now what shall be done about it when enough to see a man pretty well, but never been to Mr. Hinson's to see her. that "it was a very heavy, foggy morning." I have been informed that flection upon the jury? Have they after the trial was over, and court had perjured their souls merely because adjourned on Saturday night, things as so many think, John Evans may not | were mee pretty lively for him around Rockingham, and there were wild threats, because he went on the stand and told what he did.

One would think the very best efforts would be put forth to get a correct description of the assailant, and no one would send out orders to arrest any person until such description was given. The wires were hot with messages to all adjacent places to catch a mulatto. inal was a telegram here in the hands of an officer, from Mr. W. N. Everett, mayor of Rockingham, saying that it was a mulatto. The sheriff got what the father gave as the proper description, and it called for a mulatto. So certain was the father that it was a mulatto, he insisted that it fitted the whom I have a tender affection, Judge man had not been in town recently, McIver, said he thought it my duty to We had the Western Union and the to bring with them all telegrams of description, and they brought many. If there was one sent out within three days after the crime was committed that did not call for the mulatto, I did not see it. Some even called for mulatto with white vest, dotted black. Furthermore the first arrest was an Italian and thick and fast thereafter

bright mulattoes were arrested. As late as the third day afterwards, John Forepaugh ("banjo picker"), a bright mulatto was arrested and escorted to Rockingham by the Maxton Guards. Being carried before the little girl, she did not identify. Shortly afterwards Editor Cook, of the Laurinburg Exchange, interviewed her, and so positive was he that she had found the right man that he wrote in his notes: 'Miss Mattle says it is the right man.' She told Mr. Cook that she thought it was, and her father said he thought that if brought before her without the soldiers' presence to excite her, she would say he was the right man. Next morning he was carried before her and she failed to identify him. Now. Mr. Everett, in his article last Sunday says: "It is a sad day in North Carolina to let it go abroad that the word of a good, honest white girl, of intelligence and character, is to be thrust aside by the Governor of this great state, on the word of a man who is swearing to save his neck, backed up by two of his sorry, lying negro pals." This little girl under 14, where there is only a presumption in case one of this age should commit a crime, has no word of censure from me. She rather attracted me while she was on the stand. But she is a child. She may be just what thousands of others have been-mistaken as to the identity. Some are familiar with the case in Wilmington like this: A crime was committed on the street (purse snatched, I think) and the criminal, running off, was noticed by one who had ample opportunity to perceive his features. The identification of one accused was direct and positive. The captain and part of the crew of a vessel testified that the accused was far out at sea on their vessel that day. So it goes. Such identification cannot be beyond question. If so, why did not the parties having the matter in hand, among them Mr. Everett, release John Forepaugh when she said he was not the man? Mr. Everett said: "Several arrests * * * were made without her (Miss Mattie's) knowledge or authority, and as soon as she was consulted on the subject, those parties were immediately released from custody." What was John Forepaugh, a bright mulatto, carried from Miss Mattie's presence to Wilmington for? And why did he languish in New Hanover jail nearly a week? Did those managing the business doubt Miss Mattie's "word," when she failed to identify, as soon as she was consulted on the subject? Gentlemen, it simply means that you did not consider the identification, or lack of it, conclusive Then, pray do not arraign all those who feel now just as you did then about the matter

of identification. Now, as to the alibi, proved by various parties, among them negroes who proved good characters by white men, and white men who proved good characters, what more can be said than that the men who slept with John Evans, and who were with him all the time, proving good characters for themselves, said they were with him all the time for near an hour before and after the crime. This negro is not bright. We feared that he would prove a bad witness for himself, and might lie, possibly, so low is the order of his intellect, so lacking in capacity to meet shrewd cross examination; but he told his tale, and, I believe, told it straight.

He was arrested in Anson county. carried at once on the train to Rockingham where he was hurriedly taken from the train by officers, known well to Miss Mattie as such, handcuffed into her presence, hurriedly, and with no one else to stand beside him, and the identifying was over with and he on his way to Raleigh. No mark, no scar, no anything that makes him different from another genuine African.

Arriving at Raleigh, he was interman. Passing on through the fence, viewed. He said he left Lauringburg defense of Wilmington, and am personalwhen she got through she noticed that Friday evening, went to Rockingham, skirts about her to slip through the etc., etc., setting up a full alibi, which

and black, proving good characters for | Curtis the last badly wounded. It would retired late, having extensively celebratthemselves. The reporter who came down, summoned for the state, to contradict Evans, was put on the stand. He told me Evans' statement was not at variance with his testimony on the stand, on any substantial point. One Mr. Watkins, white, who proved an excellent character, told on the stand that he left his home as the town clock was striking 6, and after a walk of some 200 yards, arrived at the stable, went in, saw a stranger and inquired who it was, was told, but did not remember the name or see the face well, but did remember that party, a negro. was putting on his shoes, as if he was just getting up, within four to six, and positively not over ten minutes after 6 o'clock. The crime was committed five minutes before 6, some 400 to 500 yards (a quarter of a mile) away, or even more. All of this fully corroborated, and man identified as John

They say these witnesses had no imepieces. The town clock was striking every half hour, and it was in sight of the stable, and if not too cloudy and keys to the building, etc., surrendered. ter this occurrence. Furthermore, foggy (?) it must have been plainly vis-

ible. They say Evans went the most direct route to see his sister at Mr. Hinson's. Mr. Hinson does not go that route home from his stable. There was not a scintilla of evidence that Evans had ever been in that part of town, and his sister and he both testified that he had He said he did not know where Mr. Hinson lived, and there is not one thing to indicate that he did.

Evans was seen in Captain Everett's

store at 7 a. m., asking for the clerk's office to get a certificate that he had not committed a crime in Richmond county, which should keep him from voting. He had dirt on his knees, gotten there, as I have shown, by affidavits filed, and interviews with parties for whom he worked, by picking cotton on his knees, the day before. After being soundly cursed by a bystander in the store and warned that one crime having been committed there that morning, he would do well to beware lest he get his neck in a halter, he remained around town until 11 o'clock. greasing a wagon for a man, and then walked out of town. He testified that he went up town to a new building, inquiring for work, and was fully corroborated in that. This was 200 yards siderable time after the crime. He was not discovered at any time with a broad toed shoe, which the criminal had, as mand at Wilmington. white, say he worked for them for some time prior to October 23d, and that he was quiet, peaceable, respectful. Two years ago, it was testified, he lived a short time about five miles from Rockingham, going into town occasionally with a farm wagon, and, after disposing of his load, or getting one, he would drive home. Not much opportunity to see the town in this, or to become acquainted with the haun'ts of its people. The father of the girl told it to one who will declare on his oath, telling it on Wednesday of court, the day Evans was arraigned, that he, the father, feared, that Evans was not the right man; that if the truth were known, he would not be surprised if it should turn out to be a white man in Rockingham not yet suspected. Not the white man arrested and carried to Raleigh, where he remained some days under suspicion of having committed this crime. I have not heard that Miss Mattie was 'consulted" about that white suspect, but her father doubted her identification of John Evans, already made,

theretofore. If anything herein can be taken as personal, I disclaim any such intention. I have written only to inform the people of the state. It has been asserted that after Mr. Everett's article, the people are fast turning over to believe in Evans' guilt. And those who think him innocent are held up to ridicule. Among those who think with me I can count three former judges of the state, one of whom graced and adorned the supreme court bench, who believes Evans the wrong man. If the right man, let us remove the doubt. If the wrong man, God pity those who would hang him. If the wrong man, may God help those into whose hands his life was placed, but who failed to prove him innocent, to the satisfaction

of the jury. MAXCY L. JOHN. One of Counsel Assigned for the De-Laurinburg, N. C., Dec. 4, 1897.

BRAGG'S LETTER A SLANDER

His Charge That Fort Fisher's Garrison Was Drunk at the Bombardment False-Three Participants Indignantly Deny the Story

Morehead Citk, N. C., December 10.

Editors Messenger: I see in your paper of December 5th a letter from General Braxton Bragg to his brother, Thomas Bragg, dated January 20, 1865, giving an account of the battle and capture of Fort Fisher, in which he says: "The most of the officers and soldiers were drunk in the boomproofs and the yankees walked in and took possession; and the people of Wilmington were clamoring for the yankies to come."

This is too ridiculous to reply to; but as one of the defenders of Fort Fisher I will say that the statement so far as it refers to the battle and capture of the fort is false, as is also the disloyalty of the people of Wilmington, to the south. General Terry in his official report of the battle and capture of Fort Fisher, says that he lost in that engagement 1.445 officers and men, which shows a brave and determined resistance, of a small force of only about 1,900 confederates. His statement of the conduct of General Hoke's troops above Sugar Loaf and his withdrawal after his clothes being pierced by yankee bullets may be true. But his criticism of General Whiting and the officers and men in the battle of Fort Fisher is incorrect. If General Bragg had have done his duty to General Whiting, and sent him reinforcements when he asked for them, the result would have been different.

T. C. DAVIS. Fortieth Regiment, N. C. Troops.

Raleigh, N. C., December 9. Editors Messenger:

Major Graham Daves, who is always well informed and who writes so interestingly, tells me: I see in The Messenger the interesting letter of General Bragg-"Capture of Fort Fisher"-an eloquent effort on the part of a distinguished man to explain away his own blunders and faulty generalship. You mistake in stating that it has never before been printed. You will find it in the "Southern Historica Society Papers," of Richmond for August-September, 1882, Nos. 8 and 9, and in the bound volume X, page 146, etc., and with it Colonel Lamb's complete rejoinder in damaging refutation. I was with the troops outside the fort, posted for the ly cognizant of some of General Bragg's errors. General Hoke commanded a division of four brigades, not a brigade, as General Bragg states. General Bragg says: "Not even a general officer was cavalry and infantry being quartered brought ashore" by the yankees. We about in the citizens' houses. The general know of four-Terry, Paine, Abbott and was in the centre of the town, and had

have been passing strange if an expedition of nearly 10,000 men had been sent liberal supply of champagne. Mosby, with ashore without a general. Again he twenty men, rode slowly into the town says: "Not a gun was reported injured, about two hours before dawn, and trotsays: "Not a gun was reported injured, the fort not damaged," the fact being that every gun on the land face of the tle party divided, some going to get sup-fort was disabled or dismounted by the plies that were procurable, as well as the fearful bombardment by the fleet before

the assault was made. F. A. OLDS.

(Charlotte Observer.) Editor of The Observer:

I have just read the article written by General Bragg to his brother in Sunday's issue. To say I am disgusted, is putting it mildly. To say I am surprised would not be true. Nothing eminating from this source of bad omen could surprise me. In the first place General Bragg was not at Fort Fisher nor could he be induced to go or send any assistance to the fort. He would listen to nothing suggested by either of those noble and brave officers. I allude to General Whiting and Colonel Lamb. No better or braver soldiers fought for the Lost Cause. I speak advisedly, being an eye witness. I was wounded on that same Sabbath day as was General Whiting and Colonel Lamb and was captured at the same time they were, and it is false and slanderous to accuse the Fort Fisher garrison of being drunk or quartered in bomb proofs. No more desperate struggle was made during the war and never did soldiers behave more nobly. General Bragg was responsible for the fall of Fort Fisher, as all who were in the fort at the time of the bombardment believe, and if Colonel Lamb and General Whiting could have exercised their will and better judgment no doubt the results would have been different. I read carefully the article by Colonel Lamb, published in The Observer recently, and testify to the correctness of all he said.

As to all the officers and most of the soldiers being drunk, it is absolutely false. We had no time to look up anything to eat, much less to drink. I was in it all, from the beginning to the end, and can truthfully testify to the fact that not one drop of spirits did I see or smell, nor did I see anyone drunk. Now who has the best right to know the facts and to be believed-an eye witness on the grounds, or General Bragg in Wilmington, twenty miles away, and out of the reach of any guns.

Two of the officers, Captain K. J. Braddy, in command of one of the cannon, and Captain C. H. Blocker, aid on staff, both of whom were kinsmen of mine, and were of course, closely connected, Captain Blocker being the one who carried me to the rear after I was wounded, will, no doubt, as well as all who were in the fort, condemn this letter of General Bragg's as maliciously false or as cruel negligence of duty in ascertainingthe facts.

Sad, indeed, for the confederacy, was the day General Bragg was put in com-

shown by his tracks. Good men here, A careful reading of the history of our late war will show that General Bragg was a signal failure. His conduct and bad generalship in the matter of the defense of Fort Fisher finds its counterpart in his campaigns in the west. General Bragg had made a reputation for inefficiency before he was called to the defense of the "gateway of the confederacy," and no slanderous, trumpedup charge of his, published more than thirty years after the lamentable event. can detract from the immortality of glory won by the splendid Whiting and the superb Lamb and their followers, or save him from the condemnation he has received and deserves.

F. O. HAWLEY. Charlotte, N. C., December 6th, 1897.

MOSBY'S RANGERS

Thrilling Adventurers of the Famous Body of Confederate Troops-How They Captured a Yankee General-A Pay Train Captured and \$170,000 Secured

(Philadelphia Times.)

The reunion of Mosby's Rangers, which took place last week in Baltimore, recalls most vividly the stirring times of war, when these same men were not the peaceful citizens of today, but the much feared bold spirits that spent their days and nights in harassing the boys that Uncle Sam sent out to capture them. It is a long time since the lads in gray had been in a fight; many of those who had been boon companions are now sleeping undisturbed by the sound of strife, and over the heads of all Father Time had cast a frost that, while it silvered the hair, touched not the heart of those who met around the festal board to talk of

the adventures of the days of old. The band known as the Mosby Rangers was in fact the Forty-third Virginia battalion, a regularly organized troop, in which the officers were commissioned and under the personal supervision of Mosby, who was subordinate to General Lee, just as were the other officers of the confederate army. These rangers, however, were gathered for a species of warfare which, being exercised in an independent way, was the means of harassing the enemy and of keeping the large armies of the union constantly on the alert. As a line is only as strong as its weakest point, it sometimes took several thousand federal troops to guard a road or communications, when they were in truth menaced by only a few hundred. The rangers, who were composed of the young men of the state, received no compensation from the confederate government for their services, other than spoils of war taken by their own efforts from the enemy. Many of the soldiers were but boys, some scarcely out of school, but the flower of the south could be found in their ranks, while for daring and absolute fearlessness they had

no equal. That part of Virginia which is included in Fauquier and Fairfax counties became known as Mosby's confederacy, and in a short time was practically under the control of his men. Ceaseless were the skirmishes which took place, the thrilling adventures and hairbreadth escapes they encountered, but none perhaps are as remarkable as the affair in which they went boldly into the

frown of the guns in the federal forts. This adventure occurred in March, 1863, just after the battle of Chancellorsville, and about the time that Lee had begun to marshal his forces for an intended in-Stoughton and a large force were encamped at the little village of Fairfax. which is the county seat of the vicinity, and numbers a few hundred inhabitants The men of the force were quartered about the place, while the general had his headquarters, with his staff, at the brick house which is now used as the rectory for the Episcopal clergyman of the town. This residence is a large one, standing in the midst of a lot of goodly size, just about 100 yards from the main story was occupied by the commanding

general. The night selected by the rangers was a cold, drizzling one, and they set out on their journey from their starting point, which was several miles outside the enemy's lines about the town, at near midnight. The lines of the federals extended in every direction about the country. some of the union forces being at Centerville, a tiny hamlet six miles from Fairfax. In order to escape the pickets the rangers made a detour, and striking off from the main road on which they were traveling managed to approach the town in such a way that the federals could not but suppose the troop was part of their own force. The road was anything but a pleasant one to ride, for the mud was deep as only Virginia mud can be, but the men plodded on, muffled up in their cloaks, till they saw in the misty distance a few lights faintly gleaming

through the trees. The soldiers belonging to Stoughton's force were soundly, sleeping, artillery,

ting up to the courthouse green the lithorses of the enemy, while Mosby and two or three of his men rode down to

the headquarters of the general. No sound was to be heard in the foggy darkness but the slight splash of the horses in the muddy road, and even had any of the enemy been awake they would never have dreamed for a moment that the guerillas, as they were called, were calmiy riding about in the midst of their camp, having eluded by strategem the pickets posted along the line. Mosby and his men rode up to the general's house and dismounted, the leader boldly knocking at the door. The house was shrouded in darkness and silence, but presently a head was poked out of an upper window and a sleepy voice inquired what 29%c. was wanted. Mosby replied that he was a bearer of dispatches for General Stoughton. The head disappeared, then came a gleam of light, and an officer in uniform, came down the narrow stairs and opened the door. In a moment he found himself a prisoner, and was told in a low voice to conduct the men to the general's room.

The half awake and startled officer was too much surprised to resist, especially as there was a long barrel glittering just before his eyes, so he went upstairs, accompanied by Mosby and his companions. The party walked into the room in which Stoughton lay calmly slumbering amid billows of blankets, and Mosby, walking up and shaking him, told him to get up. Hearing the name Mosby faintly in his dreams, Stroughton sleeply inquired if "Have you got Mosby! supposing it was one of his own scouting parties come to report the capture of the ranger leader, but he was scared into life when, with a rough shake and a slap, the confederate informed him that "Mosby has got you.'

There is no use in resisting," remarked Mosby, coolly. "It means, sir, that you are my prisoner, for Stuart's cavalry is in possession of the place." Knowing it fruitless to struggle against such a force, Stoughton arose and dressed hurriedly, guarded all the while by the confederates, who also secured the rest of the staff officers in the house. Placing the general between two of his men. Mosby returned to the green, where he met the rest of his men who had been on a foraging expedition about the town. On taking an account of what had been gathered in it was found that, besides Brigadier General Stoughton, they had secured two captains, thirty other prisoners, together with their arms, ammunition and fifty-eight horses.

The neturn trip was safely made though the party, whose prisoners were stronger in number than their captors, were fearful that some outcry might be made that would awake those of the foe

who were slumbering. As soon as they were out of earshot of the town they set out at a brisk pace and about dawn passed within 200 yards of the federal fort at Centerville. The grim mouths of the cannon could be seen looming up in the dim light, and one prisoner, a Captain Barker, of New York, here made a break for liberty, but was brought back by a timely shot. Passing beyond reach of the fortifications, Mosby's men struck out at a rapid pace for their own lines, and were soon safe from any fear of interference, delivering up their prisoners to the confederate auhorities. Another exciting and very remunera-

ive adventures of the rangers was when they captured a federal pay train, from which they secured a large amount of greenbacks. It was in October, 1864, that Harry Heaton, one of the scouts, came and informed Mosby that there was a fine opening in the valley on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, so a party was secured and they set out across the mountains for Duffield station, at which place the pay train was to pass, reaching the spot just before it was due. Obstructions were placed upon the track, so that when the express came dashing down it came to an abrupt stop.

A guard was placed over the engine and the rangers entered the cars. On board were two union paymasters, having in charge the money for the troops, the amount reaching \$170,000, which was secured by West Aldridge, one of Mosby's men. Aldridge promptly reported his luck to Mosby, and when the full sum was collected it was equally divided out among the man, Mosby refusing to accept his share. The passengers were relieved of their funds, which went as individual spoils. Then the cars were set on fire, and the band went back with twenty prisoners, besides the money and the two paymasters, the latter being sent on to prison. One of the paymasters was a brother to General Ruggles, now in the war department.

Another time a train was captured near Catlett's station, on what is now the Southern railroad. Lee was making his preliminary preparations for his Gettysburg campaign. Hooker was covering Washington, while Pleasanton's cavalry corps was stationed on the river about fifty miles from the capital. General Stuart had sent to Mosby by Captain Fountain Beattie, a small mountain howitzer and it was determined to use it in an attack on the railroad which was employed by the union army for the conveying of troops. To cripple this service would be a great aid to the confederacy So the telegraph lines were cut, a rail removed and with the howitzer on the bank the men waited for the train. In a few minutes it came booming along, then glided from the track, while the infantry guard fired a volley. In a moment a shell from the gun went crashing into the boiler, at which the troops deserted. The hay on board fired up and burned brightly, while the escaping steam made a noise like that of Inferno's caldrons. The cars were loaded with fine sutler's stores and all of this was secured by the

Feats of Strength Performed by a Three-Year-Old

hungry rangers.

(Chicago Dispatch.)

Matt Deegan, Jr., is undoubtedly the strongest three-year-old in Chicago. He is a handsome child, with round cheeks, big blue eyes, and a firm chin centre of a union camp and took out which is cleft by a deep dimple. He is from its midst a slumbering general, es- as tall and as well developed as most caping with their prey under the very children of twice his age, with a full chest and strong, firm legs and arms. At 18 months this little Hercules propelled a bicycle up and down a sidewalk of Rush street, scattering pevasion of the north. Brigadier General destrians as he rolled past. At two and a half years his arms and back were strong enough for him to pull a buggy in which three men were seated. lows: A heavily built man of his ac-

Little Matt's greatest feat is as folquaintance was visiting at the Deegan home. Suddenly the man felt something tugging at his legs, and the next thing he knew little Matt had thrown him off his feet. Since that time Matt's road, and the front room in the second father has rather frowned upon his feats of strength. His father is a wellto-do plumber and politician.

Pointed Paragraphs A tart actress might be a sweet crea-

Insane asylums are now classed as repair shops for wheels.

To be a gentlemen all a man has to do is to hide his meaness. The convict on a chain gang

always attached to his work. Satan might justly claim to being the original scorcher.

The woman who can go to church in calico dress is truly religious. Indulgent mothers are the ones who permit their children to annoy others.

It is easy to see through people who are always making spectacles of themselves. The average man feels that he is

craws a salary for doing nothing.

WILMINGTON MARKETS

COTTON REPORT. Wimington, N. C., December 11. Receipts of cotton today 3,993 bales. Receipts same day last year-1,816 bales, This season's receipts to date-237,787

bales. Receipts to same date last year-189,246 bales. The quotations posted at 4 o'clock today at the exchange,

Cotton steady. Ordinary...... 2 15-16 Good ordinary..... 4½ Low middling..... 4 15-16 Middling 5% Good middling 5% Same day last year, 7%c. NAVAL STORES.

Spirits turpentine-Machine barrels firm at 30%c; country barrels firm at Rosin nominal at \$1.15 and \$1.20.

Tar steady at \$1.05. Crude turpentine steady; hard \$1.40; yellow dip \$1.90; Virgin \$1.90. Prices same day last year-Spirits turpentine 254c and 24%c; rosin \$1.45 and \$1.50; tar \$1.10; crude turpentine \$1.40, \$1.80 and \$1.90. Receipts today-141 casks spirits tur-

pentine, 373 barrels rosin, 332 barrels tar. 151 barrels crude turpentine. Receipts same day last year-54 casks spirits turpentine, 600 barreis rosin, 112 barrels tar, 26 barrels crude turpentine,

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Pork-Very dull, with the market oversupplied. Peanuts-North Carolina, prime 55@60c per bushel; extra prime, 65c; fancy 721/c. Virginia-Extra prime, 406 45c. Rice-Uplands, 65@80c; lowlands, \$1.100

Corn-47144750c. North Carolina Bacon-Hams, 10@11c; shoulders, 6064c; sides, 7408c. Chickens-Dull; spring 10@18c; hens

18@25c; roosters, 18@22c. Turkeys, (live), 7c to 10c per pound. Eggs-Dull at 17c.

Shingles-Per 1,000 five inch, hearts and saps, \$1.0562.10; six inch, \$2.5063.50. Timber at \$3.00 to \$8.00 per 1,000 feet.

FINANCIAL.

New York, December 11 .- Money on call nominally at 11/42 per cent.; prime mercantile paper at 363% per cent.; sterling exchange steady with actual business in bankers bills at \$4.85% 44.8512 for demand and \$4.824244.824 for sixty days; posted rates \$4.83\604.84 and \$4.86\2014.87; commercial bills \$4.81%; silver certificates for 10,000 ounces 58%; bar silver 58%; Mexican dollars 4612; state bonds dull; railroad bonds strong; government bonds strong.

STOCKS.

1	Atchison 12% W. & L. E 2
1	B & O 1314 W. & L. E., pre 19
1	Ches & Ohio 2214 Adams Ex156
1	Chic. & Alton162 American Ex115
	Chic., B. & O 98 United States 40
1	Del. & Hudson108% Wells Far112
	The same of the sa
	Illinois Central. 103 Am. Tobacco 88
	This regards a country of the last the
1	L. & N 5734 Am. Tobac, pre.112
3	Manhattan Llores People's Gas 39
1	Mobile & Ohio 28 Con, Gas180
. 1	N. J. Central 84% Gen. Electric33
d	N. Y. Central 107% Lead 34%
	Reading 21 Pacific Mail 30%
	Construction to the contract of the contract o
	South Ry., pre., 331 Silver Cer., 5814
	Texas & Pacific. 113 Sugar 141%
١.	All bridge 101/ West Inter 90
ı	
	PONDS

U. S. N. 4's reg. 129% L. & N. Un 4's. . 87% U. S. N. 4's cou..129% Missouri 6's100 U. S. 4's reg.....112% N. J. Cen. 6's...112% U. S. 4's cou.....114% N. Caro. 6's.....126 U. S. 2's...... 99 N. Caro. 4's....103 U. S. 5's reg......114% Pa. 6's, of '95....102% U. S. 5's cou.....114 S. Caro, non-fu. 14 Ala. Class A..... 108 | South. Ry 94% Tenn N set 3's. 91% Al2. Class B.....108 Ala. Class C.....100 Unian Pa. 1's...102% Ala, Currency...100 | Va. Cen.... 681/4 La. N. con 4's...101 Va. deferred ... 3

COTTON. Liverpool, December 11.-12:30 p. m .-Cotton-Spot quiet; prices unchanged; American middling 3 3-16d; sales 18,800; receipts 14,000; American 10,400. Futures opened quiet; demand moderate, American middling, low middling clause: December 3 9-64d; January 3 8-64d; March and April 3 9-64d; April and May 3 10-64d; May and June 3 12-64d; June and July

gust and September 3 15-64d. New York, December II.-Cotton quiet; middling 5%c; net receipts 881; gross receipts 7,593; forwarded 4,415; sales none;

3 13-64d; July and August 3 14-64d; Au-

Total today and consolidated: Net receipts 57,288; exports to Great Britain 7,000; to the continent 22,951; stock 1,091,-

Total since September 1st: Net receipts 4.509,573; exports to Great Britain 1,431,-

683; to France 410,369; to the continent Futures closed steady sales 30,100 bales: January 5.70; February 5.73; March 5.77; April 5.82; May 5.87; June 5.91; July 5.96;

August 6.00; September 6.00; October 6.02; December 5.69. Spot cotton closed quiet; middling uplands 5%c; middling gulf 6%c; sales none. PORT RECEIPTS.

Galveston-Steady at 5 7-16c; net receipts 8,882. Norfolk-Steady at 51/2c; net receipts Baltimore-Nominal at 5%c; gross receipts 655. Boston-Quiet at 5%c; net receipts

1.760; gross receipts 4,470. Wilmington-Steady at 5%c; net receipts 3.903 Philadelphia-Quiet at 61/4c; net receipts Savannah-Quiet at 5 3-16c; net receipts 12,902.

New Orleans-Steady at 51/4c: net receipts 15,008; gross receipts 16,469.

Mobile-Easy at 160; net receipts Mobile-Easy Memphis-Steady at 54c; net receipts 3,774: gross receipts 4,431.

1,543; gross receipts 1,595. Charleston-Quiet at 5 3-16c; net receipts 5,308. Cincinnati-Quiet at 51/2c; net receipts

Louisville-Steady at 5 5-16c. St. Louis-Steady at 5 5-16c; net receipts 380; gross receipts 4,526. Houston-Steady at 5 7-16c; net receipts

GRAIN AND PROVISION. Chicago, December 11.-The leading futures were as follows: Open. High. Low. Clos. Wheat-December\$1.04 \$1.05 \$1.03 anuary May 91% 91% Corn-

December 251/2 January 251/2 May 281/2 Aats-December 22 May 2244 Mess pork per bbi— December-January 8.2234 8.35 May 8.47½ 8.60 Lard, per 100 lbs— 8.471/2 December January 4.321/9 4.371/4 May 4.50 4.55 Short ribs, per 100 lbs-December January 4.221/2 4.25 May 4.321/4 4.371/4

NAVAL STORES New York-Rosin steady; strained common to good \$1.40@1.45. Turpentine steady at 32%@33%c.

Charleston-Turpentine firm at 30c: sales none. Rosin firm and unchanged: sales none.

Savannah-Spirits turpentine firm at 30½c bid; sales 452; receipts 927. Rosin only getting what he deserves when he firm and unchanged; sales 1.162; receipte